(5) In order to promote innovative building materials technologies and use of new construction techniques, following important steps have been undertaken:—

- Various improvements in the methods of production of conventional materials like bricks, cement and building materials from industrial and agricultural waste;
- Demonstration of the use of prefabricated methods and components in various construction projects;
- Deptt, of Science & Technology has brought out a report on construction equipment and this is being propagated;
- Public sector construction Company in various fields act as pace setters in new techniques, design and cost control.

(6) HUDCO extends financial support in the form of loan and equity to building materials industries based on innovative technologies using agricultural and industrial wastes and NHB offers refinance for such proposals.

(7) A national network of building centres is being set up for the transfer of innovative and cost effective technologies and for the training of workmen and artisans in their application.

(8) For effecting reduction in construction costs and saving of energy in ■ construction industry the CPWD has adopted various measures like value analysis in the planning of buildings and use of innovative construction techniques like underreamed piles, structural brick work design, quality control and technical and energy audit based on Quality Circle Approach.

Attachment Of private property of owners defaulting payment of Provident Fund

*99. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state whether Government propose to bring about legislation to attach the private property of the owners of the Industrial Establishments who have defaulted on the payments in respect of Provident Fund dues from the employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): There is already a provision in section 8 B(l) of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, for attachment and sale of movable or immovable property of the defaulting employers.

Creation of separate pools

*100. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the separate pools created by the Directorate of Estates during the last five years;

(b) what are the criteria for creating the separate pools;

(c) whether at the time of creating separate pools, the departments, which were covered under these pools, were consulted;

(d) if so, whether their demand for various types of houses was met;

(e) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to place some additional number of houses in each category, particularly where the satisfaction level is very low?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Separate pools

exist for Members of Parliament, Defence, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Delhi Administration, Posts & Telegraphs employees, Judges, Journalists and Government of India Press employees, etc. A separate pool was carved out in 1988 for the Rajya Sabha Secretariat employees by placing 244 houses from general pool for administration by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. This was in addition to 130 houses which were already under "the control of Rajya Sabha Secretariat. The objective in creating separate pools is to enable better percentage of satisfaction for staff of this designated organisations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The comparative satisfaction of Rajya Sabha Secretariat employees in various types is found to be better as compared to the satisfaction available for the general pool employees.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) There is no such proposal.

Authorisation to TRIFED for procurement and support price operations

431.SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR.

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) and other cooperatives have been authorised to take up the procurement and support price operations in paddy, wheat and other cereals and pulses;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether it is a fact that collection and marketing of paddy and wheat etc. from tribal regions are unorganised and unsystematic; if so, what steps arc being taken to improve the collection of these products'?

@ Previously Unstarred Question 183 transferred from the 26th December, 1989.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) TRIFED has been appointed as an agency of Food Corporation of India (FCI) for procurement of wheat and paddy from tribal areas in the country. It has also been authorised to undertake procurement of coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds in tribal areas. This is done with a view to effectively reach the benifits under price support schemes to tribals.

(c) In the past there were some problems as the purchases were made from the mandis/regulated markets located at blocks, taluk or district headquarters. Now TRIFED makes procurement of wheat, paddy, coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds through State Tribal Cooperative Corporations/Federations from the tribal growers at "Heats" which are the traditional weekly markets of tribals. In view of this the collection & marketing of the tribal produce had been streamlined.

Raising of ceilling limit for payment of bonus

432. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the out-dated provision in the Bonus Act putting the eligibility limit on the income of Rs. 2,500 p.m. would deny bonus to a large segment of workers of the public sector particularly those covered by the productivity-linked bonus scheme; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to raise the ceiling limit in view of the increased emoluments of the workers of the Public Sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Payment of Bonus Act was amended in 1985 increasing the eligibility limit from Rs. 1600 to Rs. 2500 p. m. thus bringing a larger segment of workers under its coverage.